

# Easton Parish Magazine



The Student Cross and its bearers once again visit Easton Church during Easter week on their amazing walking pilgrimage from Colchester to Walsingham.



*May 2017*  
*Price 25p*

# ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, EASTON

<b>Priest-in-Charge</b>	<b>Revd. Deirdre West</b> Smokey House, The Common, Tunstall	<b>Tel: 688340</b>
<b>Churchwarden</b>	<b>Jane Woodbury-Eggs</b> Bickley, Harriers Walk	<b>Tel: 746667</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Carol Rook</b> Ivy Cottage, The Street	<b>Tel: 746162</b>
<b>Magazine Editor</b>	<b>Clare Owen</b> 5 Harriers Walk	<b>Tel: 745015</b>

Dear Friends

For many of us, the availability of life's necessities is something we take for granted. Thankfully, I have now eaten all the chocolate I was given at Easter, and I do not wish to see any more for the foreseeable future. However its sweetness will take a little longer to work out of my system. But all is not lost. My sweet tooth will be 'glad' or maybe 'not glad' to know. While planning a service with two members of the ministry team recently I learned something that had never known before, something so beyond my simple imagination that it could have been a 'wind-up'. Something that was such a surprise that I decided to share it with you, just in case you need a little more sweetness in your diet, especially if like me all your Easter eggs are gone!

Am I the only person in Suffolk, I asked myself, not to know that Bassett's jelly babies carry a Christian message? Yes they do!! And they've been around since at least 1885, being rebranded in 1918 as 'peace babies' and it is only the Bassett ones that carry a unique shape. The black ones have a heart on them representing the sin in our lives. On the reds you will find a 'B' for the blood Christ shed to show how much he loved us. Pink ones are babies as a reminder that when we became Christians we became a 'child of God'. Yes we did! The green jelly baby is crying, showing God's great sadness that people don't always know, or fail to remember, the way to heaven. The orange one has a 'bum bag' which tells us we need to be ready for Jesus coming again. And the yellow ones have a necklace representing the riches of heaven. So having bought a packet to check this out for myself, I have eaten them ALL, and in just the way I did as a child, by first knocking off the powder and then biting the head off, and not really enjoying the green ones, so my taste buds haven't changed that much over the years as I did and still do like the flavour of the red ones best. Though the yellow colour ones with their necklaces have a fine message for us – reminding us of the joys and riches of heaven that await us.

After writing this I began to fear for my sanity, but I hope it has made you giggle at the silliness of your Vicar, and that you will forgive me this once if I promise a more 'usual' letter again next month. Please try not to cause a market crash at the supermarkets by buying your packets all at the same time.

With love in Christ

Deirdre



# *Church Matters .....*

## *Services*

The May Orebeck Benefice service will be at Campsea Ashe on Sunday 7th May at 10 am.

On 4th June (Whitsunday) there will be a sung Holy Communion benefice service at Easton at 10 am.

## *Archdeacon's Visitation Service*

This service "swears in" the churchwardens in the Deanery for the year. It will be held at Brandeston at 7.30 pm on Monday 15th May. All are welcome.

## *Discussion Group*

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 3rd May at Little Barn, Northgates, Monewden. The topic is Adam and Eve. The meeting will start with coffee/tea at 10.30 am. New members are always welcome.

## *Dates for your Diary*

### Orebeck Inauguration Party

A party is planned for Saturday 3rd June from 7.30 until 10 pm in Hacheston Village Hall to celebrate the official creation of our new seven parish benefice. There will be a pay bar and attendees are asked to bring a plate of food for sharing. We are hoping for a nice summer evening so that we can be outside as well. Do come!

### PCC Meeting

There is a PCC meeting 13th June at 7.30pm at Almond Tree Cottage.

### Hidden Gardens

Look out for more information in the June parish magazine on the Hidden Gardens of Easton on Sunday 2nd July.

*Jane Woodbury-Eggins*

# The Orebeck Party



**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June**  
**Hacheston Village Hall**  
**7.30 ~ 10pm**

(some people have to work the next day!)

Everyone and anybody is invited –  
bring a friend or two  
and a sharing plate of food.  
Cash Bar open – first drink on Deirdre  
(though this is not her leaving do)!  
Just an excuse to meet and mingle with friends  
from other parishes  
on a summer's evening.  
The open air terrace is sure to be popular  
if the weather is kind.

## ***FLOWER AND CLEANING ROTA***

	<b>Flowers</b>	<b>Cleaning</b>
<b>6th May</b>	Jean Kendall	Jean Kendall
<b>13th May</b>	Jane Woodbury-Eggs	Jane Woodbury-Eggs
<b>20th May</b>	Jane Woodbury-Eggs	Jane Woodbury-Eggs
<b>27th May</b>	Jane Pollock	Emma Gibbon
<b>3rd June</b>	Jane Pollock	Emma Gibbon

**ALL SAINTS CHURCH, EASTON  
is hosting**

# *Sunday Cafe*



**Easton Village Hall  
Sunday 21st May  
Open 10.00 - 11.30 am**

**We're back after the Easter break so  
make a note of the date and join us.  
Come and chat with friends and make  
new ones. Everyone welcome.  
Lots of homemade goodies.  
to enjoy**

*It's ....*

# C O S M I C !



It's all about unfinished business this month at COSMIC. We are going to be outside in the sunshine running around playing 'Hot Potato' and trying to see which team can pass the balloon the fastest.

We will discover all about Jesus's time running out on earth and how he left his wonderful teachings in the safe hands of his disciples. We will discover how we can carry on those wise stories today in our world. Jesus left us to be with his Father, God, and we are here to show everyone how his teachings are still relevant to us.

So come and join us, run off some energy and learn something too.

**Sunday May 28th at 11am, All Saints Church, Easton.**

Emma Gibbon T: 746866



COSMIC  
(Children on Sunday Morning in  
Church)

## **Easton Parish Council**

# **EASTON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING TO BE HELD ON FRIDAY MAY 5TH 2017 AT EASTON & LETHERINGHAM VILLAGE HALL 7.30pm**

The Annual Parish (Village) Meeting is an opportunity for residents to bring forward anything that they would like to voice about the village. Organisations are invited to give a short report on their past year, lasting approximately 3 minutes, and to provide the hard copy of their report which will be attached to the Minutes. Reports from the Church, School, Village Hall, W.I., Bowls Club, Cricket Club, and Play School would be very welcome. We look forward to seeing you.

**Bill Dicks, Clerk to Easton Parish Council**

## **LENT GIVING and the FAMINE LUNCHEs for KAGERA**

I am pleased to say I have recently sent a total sum of £480 to the Diocesan Board of Finance from the Benefice of Orebeck for the Kagera Appeal.

Thank you everyone who contributed to this most generous donation to people in need in Tanzania.

Deirdre



# FIT VILLAGES

## **NEW Gentle Exercise Class at Easton Village Hall**

**FREE TASTER SESSION**

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2pm - 3pm**

**Followed by a weekly class for only £4**

*A great way to do some light exercise and meet new people locally. Exercises will be focused on strength, balance and gentle stretching and will be aimed at beginners.*

**To find out further information or book  
please contact Adrian; Tel: 07801023365**

**Email: [adriansmith7@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:adriansmith7@hotmail.co.uk)**



Inspiring Suffolk

Suffolk  
County Council



fit Villages  
Quality in our Services

# Watercolour Workshop

Learn Watercolour Landscape painting with Colin Ayers at **Easton Village Hall** (with disabled access):  
Paint along with me in stages, creating a complete painting.



These themed one day workshops run monthly, the next workshop is on Wednesday 31st May 2017 from 10.00am until 4.00pm

Cost: £25 for a day's workshop; bring your own materials.

Tea, coffee and biscuits provided through the day; bring a packed lunch.

To book a place or for further enquiries, please contact me on [07528515214](tel:07528515214)

or

[info@colinayersart.co.uk](mailto:info@colinayersart.co.uk)

[www.colinayersart.co.uk](http://www.colinayersart.co.uk)

Society for all artists professional associate

# Village People

Alison Gibson

**How long have you lived in Easton?**

Thirty-five years.

**What made you move here?**

To be near our son Tony.

**What's your favourite thing about living here?**

The countryside and the people.

**What's your *least* favourite thing about living here?**

Winds off the North Sea.

**What's the most interesting job you've ever had and why?**

Apart from being a wife and a mother, my job from 1942-1945 in the WRNS at Bletchley Park, trying to break the Enigma Code. I was only eighteen years old. Actually the job was boring, however exciting it might sound, but great on the rare occasion when you were told you had succeeded. We worked long hours too— eight hours on duty, then eight hours off, when all we would do was sleep. We did have the occasional day off. We had to sign the Official Secrets Act so could tell no-one what we did. Not even our parents.

**Have you ever lived in another country and if so, where and why?**

I lived in Ceylon (now Sri Lanka) for two years from 1943 to 1945, still decoding, but this time Japanese instead of German codes. It took five weeks in a convoy on a troop ship to get there.

**If I could pass any law I would ...**

Fine very heavily people who throw fast food containers from car windows. But how would you catch them?

**My greatest strength is ...**

Self-discipline. I can make myself do things, or not, as the case may be.



**My greatest weakness is ...**

Now I look before I leap. I used to leap before I looked.

**My favourite TV programme is ...**

Very boring, but I love quizzes! And the Antiques Road Show.

**My favourite book ever is ...**

I can't really choose, I've read so many. Perhaps 'The Shell Seekers' by Rosamund Pilcher.

**My favourite place in the UK (other than Easton!) is ...**

Porthcothan Bay, North Cornwall, where I have spent so many wonderful holidays from the age of seventeen, then went there on and off until I was ninety.

**The best day of my life was ...**

Being reunited with my family just in time for Christmas 1945.



# Village View in May



Annual Parish Meeting  
Friday 5th May  
7.30 pm Village Hall

Village Hall AGM  
Tuesday 9th May  
7.15 pm  
Village Hall

Mobile Library  
Wednesday 10 May  
12.20—12.40 pm  
Village Hall

Gentle Exercise Class  
FREE TASTER SESSION  
Monday 15th May  
2—3 pm  
Village Hall  
See separate ad, page 7.

Sunday Café  
21st May  
10-11.30 am  
Village Hall

Easton Belles WI  
Tuesday 23rd May  
7.30 pm  
Village Hall

Watercolour Workshop  
Wednesday 31st May  
10—4 pm  
Village Hall  
See separate ad, page 8.

Yoga Flow  
Tuesdays  
9.30 - 10.45 am  
Village Hall  
Contact Kat Hesse on 638604  
for more information.

Table Tennis  
Every Wednesday  
6.30 pm Village Hall  
£5 per session

Rabble Chorus Community  
Choir  
Thursday evenings  
8—9.30 pm  
Village Hall  
First session free!

Easton Pre-School  
The Hamilton Room at  
Easton Farm Park  
Mondays, Wednesdays or  
Fridays 9.15am—3pm  
Thursday mornings  
9am-11.30am



## **NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**



**Easton Parish Council's Clerk, Bill Dicks, has passed this message on to us:**

"An incident has been reported in Marlesford of two men, one in his forties and the other in his twenties, calling on an older member of their community and saying that they had come to cut his grass. He had not organised this and was somewhat surprised. They had a slightly aggressive attitude towards this resident.

The two men were in a large green van which was advertising various garden services. Unfortunately the resident could not get the number of the van before they left in some haste.

If anyone sees a van of this description please take a note of its number and any details of the firm and let your local Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator, John Owen, know. We may be dealing here with something that is entirely legitimate, but better to be safe than sorry.

This sort of intelligence from within the community is exactly what is needed to keep residents safe - please look out for the older and more vulnerable residents of Easton, we all have a duty to protect one another."

\*\*\*

### **Take extra care when using cards abroad**

#### **Before you go away:**

- Only take cards with you that you intend to use; leave others in a secure place at home.
- Make sure you have made a note of your card company's 24-hour contact phone number.
- Make sure your card company has up-to-date contact details for you, including a mobile number if possible.
- If your cards are registered with a card protection agency, ensure you have their contact number and your policy number with you.

#### **When you are away:**

- Take the same precautions as you would in the UK. Look after your cards and card details, and shield your PIN with your free hand when typing it into a keypad in a shop or at a cash machine.
- Consider wearing a concealed money belt to keep your cards, cash and traveller's cheques safe.

#### **When you get back:**

Check your card statements carefully for unfamiliar transactions. If there are any, report them to your card company as soon as possible.

John Owen  
T: 746644

# SUMMER SPORTS IN EASTON

## MAY FIXTURES

The summer sporting season is now well under way, so why not come and visit one of the clubs to watch a game and enjoy a drink. Perhaps you would like to become a social member in which case you can arrange that when you visit.

### Cricket

Sat	06	1st XI	v	Dunmow	Home
		2nd XI	v	Braintree II	Away
Sun	07	Sunday XI	v	Saxmundham	Home
		Ladies XI	v	Mildenhall	Away
Sat	13	1st XI	v	East Bergholt	Home
Sun	14	Sunday XI	v	Nacton	Home
Sat	20	1st XI	v	Lakenheath	Away
		2nd XI	v	Bury St Ed III	Home
Sun	21	Sunday XI	v	BT	Away
		Ladies XI	v	Mildenhall	Home
Sat	27	1st XI	v	Ipswich	Home
		2nd XI	v	Long Melford II	Away
Sun	28	Sunday XI	v	Brantham	Home



Matches start at 1.00pm

### Bowls

Tue	02	W'bridge Lge	v	Laxfield	Away	7.00
Thu	04	Friendly	v	W/Mkt Triangle	Home	6.30
Tue	09	W'bridge Lge	v	Dennington	Home	7.00
Thu	11	Fynn Lge	v	Wickham Market	Home	6.45
Sun	14	Open Comp	v	Eric Peck Cup	Home	11.00
Thu	18	Fynn Lge	v	Sweffling	Home	6.45
Mon	22	Open Comp		Pairs	Home	10.00
Tue	23	W'bridge Lge	v	Leiston I	Away	7.00
Thu	25	Fynn Lge	v	Otley	Away	6.45
Fri	26	Junior Cup	v	Wickham Market	Home	6.30
Tue	30	W'bridge Lge	v	Alderton	Home	7.00





The WI now offer new membership at a pro-rata subscription, depending on the quarter in which you join.

Therefore, it is not too late to join us for the remainder of this year's programme. If you would like to come to a meeting to see if our group is of interest, we make no charge for the first visit.

We meet in the Village Hall (unless otherwise stated) on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7.30 pm - next meeting 23rd May.

Enquiries to Janet on 01728 746808,  
or [prenticejanet@hotmail.com](mailto:prenticejanet@hotmail.com)

## Sharon Wylie - 2017 Egg Dump Winner

Another great evening in the Village Hall organised by David Stagg and team on Good Friday. £550 was raised for St Elizabeth Hospice. Well done to everyone who organised and took part and I'm not bitter about losing in the final to Sharon—honest (grrrrr).

Ed



### What is egg dumping?

*Eggs are hard boiled in water. They are numbered and a draw is held so each player is given an egg – you can't bring your own egg. The game is played in pairs – one player will choose whether to dump or be dumped. If you are being dumped, you hold your egg still whilst the other player taps your egg from above with theirs. Whichever egg breaks is out.*



**EASTON PRE-SCHOOL**  
[www.eastonpreschool.org.uk](http://www.eastonpreschool.org.uk)  
[eastonpreschool@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:eastonpreschool@yahoo.co.uk)  
**01728 746935**

**Easton Pre-School** has places for children age 16 months to 4 years. Newly re-located to Easton Farm Park with highly experienced, caring staff. Extra activities around the farm and dance sessions, currently at no extra cost.

Flexible hours within our newly extended hours 8 am—4 pm Mon/Weds/Thurs/Fri. Government funding available for some 2 year olds and all 3 and 4 year olds.

*‘Children make good progress in readiness for school in this welcoming and stimulating environment’.*

OFSTED July 2015

Rated ‘GOOD’ at re-inspection December 2016



**“Describe your perfect date.”**

**“That’s a tough one. I’d have to say 29th April. Because it’s not too cold and not too hot. All you need is a light jacket.”**





framlingham medical practice  
**3.2.1 CHALLENGE**

**three peaks - two charities - one mission**  
**to conquer the highest mountains in England,  
Scotland and Wales in just 24hrs!**



the Fearless Five

On **Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2017** an intrepid team from **Framlingham Medical Practice** will be testing their endurance by undertaking the tough challenge to climb Ben Nevis, Scafell Pike and Snowdon in just 24hrs!



the support team

Sponsored by



The team will be raising funds for:  
**East Anglian Air Ambulance** and the new  
**Woolverstone Macmillan Cancer Centre**  
**at the Ipswich Hospital**

Please help them to achieve their goal by  
sponsoring them online

<http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/team/FramSurgery321Challenge>

Or simply drop your donation in to either the  
**Framlingham Surgery** or **Earl Soham Surgery**



**WE ARE  
MACMILLAN.  
CANCER SUPPORT**

**More on the History of the Hamilton Family**  
by  
**Brian Boon**  
(Easton was under their tenure for 92 years)

***The Four Iron Steamships***  
**Of**  
***William Alexander Lewis Stephen Douglas-Hamilton, KT***  
***12<sup>th</sup> Duke of Hamilton, 9<sup>th</sup> Duke of Brandon,***  
***2<sup>nd</sup> Duke of Châtellerauld***

Continuing the account of the lives of the two passenger paddle steamers and the two personal luxury yachts that he had built by Blackwood & Gordon of Port Glasgow.

**Part 4a – The second luxury steam yacht *Thistle***



Steam Yacht Thistle when owned by H.I.M. Empress Eugénie of France

Launched on 28<sup>th</sup> June 1881, Thistle was a 187ft long three-masted schooner-rigged yacht with a 25ft beam. An iron steamer, powered by a single screw and 2-cylinder (26 and 35 x 55 inch) engine, she has been described as a very luxurious vessel.

Her Master was a Captain Kerr and regular visits were recorded at Ipswich Dock between January 1885 and January 1895 according to arrival and departure records from Ipswich port. Various continental ports of departure included Antwerp, Boulogne, Amsterdam, Cowes, Lisbon, Trouville, Stavanger and Bergen.

I came across the following (edited) anecdotal note at Wickham Market Archive Centre, with no supporting evidence. The note referred to word of mouth passed down since those times. It suggested that the visits of *Thistle*, which had an overhanging stern frequently coincided with that of *Eaglet*, a small wooden steam barge used for coastal trade of local goods, when

Eaglet would be moored under the stern of *Thistle*. Various commodities, which may well have attracted custom duty, could have been passed down to Eaglet, during darkness, for shipment round the coast to the Ore. From there it was but a short journey by horse and trap to Easton Hall. The Duke, having left the vessel at Ipswich, could have travelled by train to Wickham Market station. The port records confirm that both vessels were frequently in port at the same time.

The Duke was overweight and suffering from ill-health, when in 1895 he was advised to spend time in the warmer climate of the Mediterranean on his yacht *Thistle*. He left Ipswich Docks on the 26<sup>th</sup> January 1895. He died on the 15<sup>th</sup> May 1895 and his embalmed body was returned to England on board *Thistle*.

The Duke altered his Trust Disposition and Settlement, the last codicil to which was signed on the 14<sup>th</sup> May 1895. The Trustees had the power to sell the Estate at Glemham, with some moveable property, including the yacht *Thistle*, towards paying off the debts on his Easton Estate. The Easton and Arran Estates were left to his daughter Lady Mary, aged 10, during her lifetime and to her children in fee, once the debts were cleared

#### Extracts from the **Isle of Wight County Press**:

**10<sup>th</sup> May 1890** “The *Thistle*, SS, Duke of Hamilton, is fitting out and will be painted black instead of white as heretofore.”

**16<sup>th</sup> November 1895** “The screw yacht *Thistle*, the property of the trustees of the Duke of Hamilton, deceased, is having boilers re-tubed by Messrs W. White and Sons preparatory to being surveyed by Lloyd’s Cowes Yacht Agency, having been sold subject to survey.”

*Thistle*’s new owner was H.I.M. Empress Eugénie of France, in exile and living at Farnborough, Hampshire since 1885, her husband Napoleon III and her son having died some years earlier. Her escape from France is interesting.

*Thistle* continued to have an interesting life for some time, including service in the Royal Navy as HMS *Thistle* in WW1.

To be continued .....

#### **Part 4b – The second luxury steam yacht *Thistle*, under the ownership of Her Imperial Majesty Empress Eugénie**

Brian Boon

## Wellie Boots for May

What a difference a month makes. Spring has sprung, the grass is rizz, and we all know where the birdies is. They're everywhere, that's where the birdies is, including the eaves over part of the concrete patio where a blackbird has taken up residence. So back to a strategically placed sun lounger for the next month or so, to create a soft landing spot, 'cos as we all know, even baby blackbirds don't take kindly to having their brains bashed out on concrete on their first flight, believe me. Do you remember I had the same problem a few years ago with some baby blue tits and it worked out well for them, so here's hoping.



Has anyone else ventured into their greenhouse recently only to find planted seed trays scratched to blazes and seedlings carefully chewed off at ground level? Sorry, but I'm afraid you've just been mugged by your very own local gang of delinquent mice (especially addicted to sweet peas) and they're not going anywhere unless you do something about it.

Although mine are very pretty reddish ones with shorter tails, they have to go, so a catch 'em alive trap is ideal, and they can be set free well outside the village. They probably won't be very happy about becoming homeless, but at least they'll still be alive. Back in the greenhouse, on warm days move your half-hardy bedding plants outside for a few hours, then back again in the evening, thus reducing the shock when they are eventually transplanted into their new homes. A sharp frost is not unknown, even in early May.

Last year of course we had the mystery of the vanishing frogspawn and tadpoles, and I have to confess that the local heron and ducks bore the brunt of my wrath. As a consequence, this year there were far fewer frogs and much less spawn. A week or so ago, during a midnight stroll around the pond (as one does), we noticed much activity yet again in the pond. On investigation with a flashlight, an absolute melee of newts in a feeding frenzy was revealed, tearing into the spawn like they hadn't been fed for a month. On second thoughts, make that almost five months—forgot they'd been hibernating all winter, so perhaps they could be forgiven, especially as most of them are Great Crested. Anyway, after a hasty search, a small dustbin was found and some of the remaining spawn rescued, so here's hoping the next generation of Easton frogs is assured. Incidentally, in captivity tadpoles absolutely 'lurve' tinned cat food, turning into big, bonny babies. However, as far as I know they don't turn into bull frogs. Let you know later ... maybe catfish?

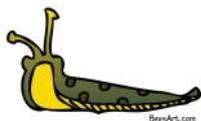


Now to the garden itself. Continue with hoeing the borders to get rid of weeds before they take hold. Annual weeds such as groundsel and bitter cress are enough of a nightmare without allowing them to go forth and multiply by seeding. On a

dry day, if you suffer from ground elder and its ilk, as we do, attack with a systemic weed killer painted onto the leaves. But remember systemic weed killers are indiscriminate and will kill anything they contact. Things are now so bad in part of the garden that the only solution is to remove any important perennial plants, overwinter in the greenhouse and then drench the remainder with very strong Round-Up. Or dig it up—again and again—and again. Also this year, in many cases the show of spring bulbs has not only been very late but quite disappointing. We therefore need to get as much goodness back into the bulb as quickly as possible, so just de-head flowers such as tulips, daffodils, bluebells, narcissi, etc so they don't use up further energy by developing seed. Then leave the stem and leaves to die back naturally, taking strength back into the bulb, although it will look a bit messy for a while. It will also help to improve the bulbs if the foliage can be treated with fertiliser during this die-back period. Meanwhile many of our plants such as peonies, delphiniums, hollyhocks etc will be in need of support later on, so now would be a good time to get supports in place to avoid disturbance later on.



If you've already mulched, draw it back if possible, teasing fertiliser into the soil, and then replace it whilst you can see what you are doing before the herbaceous growth really takes off. We always use our own mix of garden compost, leaf mould and used grow-bags, but if you are not so fortunate, then ready-made soil conditioner is available. But well-rotted manure never seems to work in our garden as it produces a profusion of grasses and weeds beyond compare. Perhaps they're using the wrong breed of horse? Give it a Suffolk Punch perhaps?



Carry on removing moss, grass and weeds from paths patios and drives and keep an eye out for pests around the garden. No, no Delilah. Stop going off in a strop. I really didn't mean you, honest I didn't. Silly girl! Now where was I? Oh yes, keep the use of chemical controls to a minimum—they may kill off pests but they also kill off the beneficial insects that prey on them such as ladybirds and hoverfly larvae, and also possibly bees. Irreplaceable in any garden. So unless you're a Buddhist or a pacifist, this is the time to wage war on slugs and snails now emerging from their winter sleep. They simply love tulips and delicacies such as the young shoots of delphiniums, hostas etc, so one could use pet-friendly slug pellets or liquid slug killer to exterminate them and their eggs below the ground. As for snails, I always prefer the beer traps. At least you know they will die happy. Otherwise you can keep a sharp eye out for them and pick them off—after dark and after rain is the best time. What you do with them after that is up to you—only don't throw them into my garden, I've enough of my own. However, as luck would have it, at the moment a mistle thrush is exploring our garden, so perhaps one or two flat stones strategically placed might encourage him to practice his snail-bashing techniques. I also understand that cheap, natural alternatives are crushed egg shells, coffee grounds and the overturned skins of half grapefruits or oranges which they like to hide under. The snails that is.

—————→

Last year's lilies should already be showing well above ground and with it the dreaded bright red lily beetle. The best way to deal with them before they cause serious damage is to pick off the adult beetle and crush it. But they're wily critters and drop to the ground and disappear as sure as dammit, so form a white paper cone to place under them and catch if they fall. On the underside of the leaves their larvae can often be found encased in a black sticky mess (actually it's their poo) so wash this off the leaves with a small water spray. With nothing to live on, they soon die, or if you want to be certain and aren't squeamish, just treat as an adult beetle and remove and crush.



Soft shoot cuttings of hydrangeas, penstemons, fuchsias etc can still be taken successfully whilst one of the main jobs this month has to be the planting out of hanging baskets and, when the bulbs have subsided, the garden urns. It's that lovely time of the year when gardeners can feel free to let their imaginations run away with themselves to a summer of brilliant sunshine, occasional rain and a riot of tasteful colour throughout. Or why not clash them to be different? Contrast can be very effective in the right place.

Then on to roses, which should have been pruned already earlier in the season. I have just given mine a good helping of specific rose fertiliser and now they are due to be sprayed with fungicide to protect against fungal disease which is done at regular intervals (check labels on container for details as they vary).

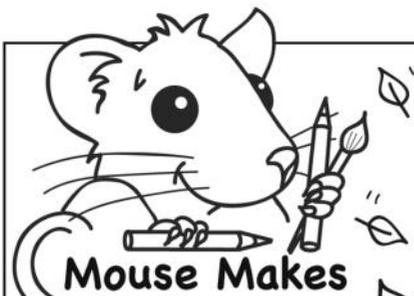
Also now is a good time to start looking forward to next year. Now that the spring flowering shrubs such as ribes, forsythia, kerria etc have ceased their annual display, this is the best time to prune into shape for next year. Finally, I understand several of you are experiencing strong lawn moss growth this year, so an application of fertiliser and moss killer may not go amiss. But follow the instructions carefully. Don't worry when black patches appear in your lawn as this will be the dead moss which you can rake away and the fertiliser will encourage the grass to quickly replace it.

As for those of you planning on singing "Here we go gathering nuts in May, nuts in May ..." please do it properly. It's "Knots in May" and refers to May blossom, not the month. So now we all know, don't we? Part of my 'Things we don't really need to know' series.

Happy Gardening.

**Wellie Boots**





### Mouse Makes

### The Man in the Tree

With Jesus passing through the town  
A crowd of people gathered round,  
But as Zacchaeus could not see,  
He ran ahead and climbed a tree.

Jesus stopped as he passed by,  
And saw Zacchaeus there up high,  
Said, "Dear Zacchaeus, come with me,  
I'm going to your house for tea".

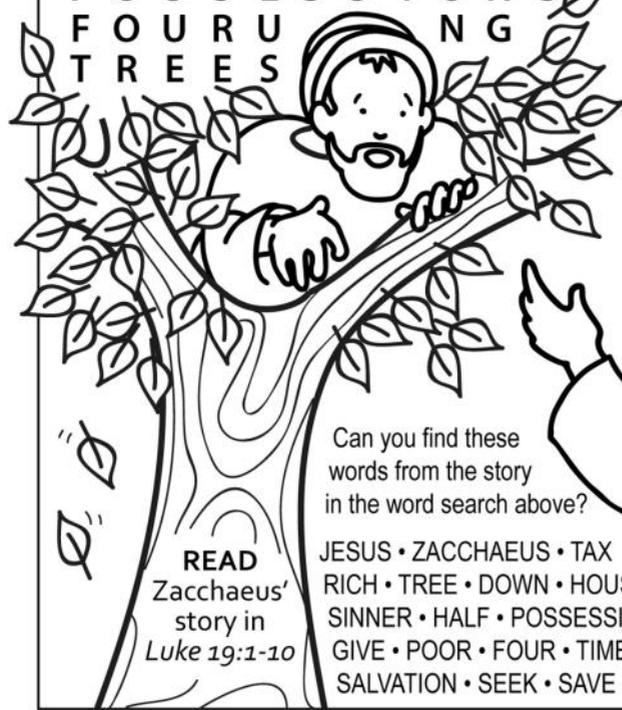
Zacchaeus climbed  
down to the floor,  
And walked with Jesus  
to his door,  
Amazed the Lord would  
want to be  
With such a liar and  
cheat as he.

Zacchaeus, sorry for  
all he had done,  
Said, "Lord, I'll pay  
back everyone,  
Half I own I give  
to the poor,  
Those I've cheated get  
four times more."

Jesus said,  
"Today you're saved!"  
Zacchaeus replied,  
"May God be praised!"



S E E K L O S T S  
 I G F O Z H M S A V E  
 N I O T A X H A L F  
 N V U T C G O D V A J  
 E E R I C H U Z A D E  
 R X G M H T S I T O S  
 P F E A W E I W U  
 P O S S E S S I O N S  
 F O U R U N G  
 T R E E S



Can you find these words from the story in the word search above?

**READ**  
Zacchaeus' story in  
*Luke 19:1-10*

- JESUS • ZACCHAEUS • TAX
- RICH • TREE • DOWN • HOUSE
- SINNER • HALF • POSSESSIONS
- GIVE • POOR • FOUR • TIMES • GOD
- SALVATION • SEEK • SAVE • LOST

## **CONTACT DETAILS OF COUNCILLORS THAT SERVE EASTON**

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#### **Chair :**

Sue Piggott

T: 01728 746622

(Also Highways Officer)

#### **Vice Chair :**

TBA

Michael Coney

T: 01728 746181

(Also Tree Officer)

Adrian Hollins

T: 01728 746053

(Also Pathways Officer)

Fiona Siddall

T: 07970 450245

(Also Play Area Officer)

Bob Gibbon

T: 01728 746866

#### **Clerk :**

Bill Dicks

T: 01728 638453

E: clerk.eastonsuffolk@virginmedia.com

### **Suffolk County Councillor**

Robin Vickery

T: 07545 423827

E: robin.vickery@suffolk.gov.uk

### **Suffolk Coastal District Councillor**

Carol Poulter

T: 07833 441349

E: carol.poulter@suffolkcoastal.gov.uk

**A copy of the latest draft minutes of the Parish Council can be read on the back of the village notice-board.**

## **Do you have something to put in the magazine?**

Contributions to the next Parish Magazine should arrive by the 20th of the month before, either by email or by handwritten piece, please.

My email address is :-  
**clareowen@tiscali.co.uk**  
or handwritten pieces to me at 5 Harriers Walk,

## **Village Hall Bookings**

**Contact Jean Blackwood-Pugh**

**Email: jeanmbp@gmail.com**

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